



CPEC

California Postsecondary Education Commission

Making Sense of the Nursing Education Crisis in California: A Program Planning Study Prospectus

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Nursing Demand

- Demand for licensed nurses is driven by demand for health care which in turn is affected by a number of factors:
 - Growing and aging population with increasing medical needs
 - Older nurse workforce retiring
 - Complex managed care environment that limits spending on nursing
 - Poor working conditions
 - State law that requires lower patient-to-nurse ratio

Questions that need to be addressed

- What is the correct mix of nursing programs and graduates given the state's labor market needs?
- How should nursing program expansion occur across higher education systems to optimize nursing care delivery?
- What specific nursing supply issues are being addressed by each higher education system?
- What institutional practices are having adverse consequences on nursing supply?

Commission's Program Planning Responsibilities

The Commission shall conduct supply and demand studies in cooperation with appropriate state agencies. It shall prepare a state plan for postsecondary education that integrates the planning efforts of the public segments with other pertinent plans. The Commission shall have the power to require the governing boards and the institutions of public postsecondary education to submit data on plans and programs ... and on other matters pertinent to effective planning, policy development, articulation, and coordination.

Initial Program Planning Phases

- Model Nursing Supply and Demand
- Assess the Unique Contributions and Benefits of the Four Systems of Higher Education on Nursing
- Determine the Cost-Effectiveness of Recent Nursing Legislation Initiatives